

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE City of Duluth Parks and Recreation Division

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SUBJECT: City of Duluth Parks Fund Neighborhood Grants Announced

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## City of Duluth Parks Fund Neighborhood Grants Announced

Mayor Ness has announced the organizations selected to receive the Parks Fund Neighborhood Grants. The City made \$79,880 available as part of the Parks Fund to support projects and initiatives which would enhance and improve city parks and recreation.

The Neighborhood Grant program is designed to provide direct support for community groups and organizations to add value in our City parks. The City is partnering with the Duluth Superior Area Community Foundation which accepted and processed the applications. Proposals were reviewed by a committee with recommendations for funding presented to the Parks Commission then for final approval from the City Council.

Parks Fund Neighborhood Grant Projects must:

- Take place entirely or primarily on existing recognized units of Duluth's parks, recreation, and trails system;
- Support the mission of Duluth's Parks and Recreation Division to fulfill the essential recreational, educational, cultural, and environmental needs that create a dynamic community; and
- Encourage both financial and volunteer efforts.

Priority was given to projects that support one or more of the following key elements of the Parks and Recreation Master Plan:

- Improve the quality of existing parks (especially neighborhood parks),
- Focus on connecting the community through trails and bikeways,
- Have fewer, but higher quality recreation buildings,
- Enhance stewardship of natural resources,
- Expand partnerships with schools for community recreation and gathering, and

• Increase use and recognition of volunteers and volunteer groups.

The grant recipients are:

**AGENCY:** Arrowhead Youth Soccer Association-\$5,000

**PROJECT:** Western Duluth Soccer Program

**AGENCY:** Cyclists of Gitchess Gumee Shores (COGGS)-\$5,000

**PROJECT:** Mountain Bike Trail System Sustainability

**AGENCY:** Cyclists of Gitchee Gumee Shores (COGGS)-\$5,000

**PROJECT:** Trail Signage for Existing COGGS

Multi-Use Trail Systems

**AGENCY:** Duluth Community Sailing Association-\$4,500

**PROJECT:** Purchase Replacement 13' Laser Class

Sailboat

**AGENCY:** Duluth Cross Country Ski Association-\$5,000

**PROJECT:** Spirit Mountain/Magney XC Ski Trail Rock

Removal and Grading

**AGENCY:** Duluth Cross Country Ski Club-\$2,450

**PROJECT:** Grooming Equipment for XC Ski Trails

**AGENCY:** Duluth Eastern Little League Baseball-\$2,500

**PROJECT:** Eastern Little League Park Repair and

Maintenance

**AGENCY:** East Hillside Patch-\$3,925

**PROJECT:** Summer Park Sampler

**AGENCY:** Friends of Keenes Creek Dog Park-\$5,000

**PROJECT:** Dog Park Improvements

**AGENCY:** Friends of the Lakewalk-\$5,000

**PROJECT:** Informational Kiosks along the Lakewalk

AGENCY: Lincoln Park Citizen Patrol-\$2,500 PROJECT: Safer Harrison Community Center

**AGENCY:** Men as Peacemakers-\$5,000

**PROJECT:** Champions Building Champions: Athletes

Helping Youth Succeed

**AGENCY:** Piedmont Hockey Association-\$5,000 **PROJECT:** Building, Grounds, Accessibility, and Ring

Improvement Project

**AGENCY:** Salvation Army Duluth-\$5,000

**PROJECT**: Rookie Basketball Association 3 on 3

Tournament

AGENCY: Valley Youth Center-\$5,000 PROJECT: Outdoor Youth Garden

AGENCY: Wise Fool Shakespeare-\$5,000 PROJECT: Lake Place Players Theater

AGENCY: Woodland Hockey Association-\$5,000 PROJECT: Woodland Outdoor Public Rink

Refurbishment

**AGENCY:** Neighborhood Youth Services-\$4,005

**PROJECT:** Beach Sweeps and Field Trips